

REMARKS

The Examiner is thanked for the thorough examination of the present application. The Final Office Action, however, rejected all claims 22-24, 26 and 28 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Dwin et al. (US Patent 5,517, 612) In response, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the currently amended claim 22,
5 **which incorporates limitations recited in previously pending claim 24**, as being patentable over Dwin et al. No issue of new matter requiring further consideration or search is raised by above-identified amendments.

10 **Claim 22 recites:**

Claim 22 (Previously presented):

An apparatus for down scaling a plurality of input frames to output a plurality of output frames, comprising:

15 a data buffer, for buffering the input frames and outputting the output frames according to a decision signal; and

a down-scaling control circuit, coupled to the data buffer, for generating the decision signal according to a scaling ratio parameter, the down-scaling control circuit comprising:

20 **an odd/even decision unit, for determining whether the input frames is an odd frame or an even frame according to a vertical synchronization signal;**

25 a selector for selecting a plurality of first sampling positions in a first input frame, a plurality of first skipping positions in the first input frame, a plurality of second sampling positions in a second input frame, and a plurality of second skipping positions in the second input frame according to the scaling ratio parameter; and outputting a selection signal; and

a control logic, for outputting the decision signal according to the selection signal;

wherein at least one of the second sampling positions in the second input frame is corresponding to one of the first skipping positions in the first input frame; and at
5 least one of the first sampling positions in the first input frame is corresponding to one of the second skipping positions in the second input frame.
(*Emphasis added*)

Response:

10 With regard to claim 22 as a whole, applicant asserts that claim 22 is patentable over Dwin et al. because Dwin et al. at least fail to utilize the feature of “**an odd/even decision unit, for determining whether the input frames is an odd frame or an even frame according to a vertical synchronization signal**” to perform a down-scaling apparatus.

15 Please refer to Fig. 4 of Dwin et al., which shows a detailed circuit diagram for scaling means 70 (FIG. 2A), including programmable register 76, mux adder means 78, controller means 104, odd accumulator circuit 80...etc. In this circuit diagram, although the controller means 104 receives an ODD/EVEN signal to control selector 88, but nowhere in Fig. 4 or in the whole content of Dwin et al. teach or imply **how does the**
20 **ODD/EVEN signal be generated.** In the Final Office Action, the Examiner referred “vertical sync” signal to be the vertical synchronization as the claimed invention. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection in Final Office Action due to the vertical sync signal shown in Dwin et al. only teaching of “The vertical sync is always sourced from the video digitizer and the condec must synchronize to the video digitizer vertically”
25 (Column 6 line 24- line 26). **Nowhere in Dwin et al. show the vertical sync could be used to determine odd/even frame. In other words, the vertical sync signal used in Dwin et al. is only for synchronization, not for determining the odd/even frame. The relation between vertical sync signal and odd/even signal in one prior art reference,**

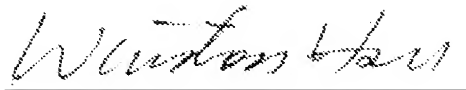
Dwin et al., is still unclear. Therefore, applicant respectfully submits that the previous claim 24, now claim 22, should not be rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Dwin et al. Furthermore, applicant also submits that those of cited prior art references would not be made the claimed invention obvious due to lack of implication or
5 motivation to consider the relation between vertical sync signal and odd/even signal.

Therefore, applicant respectfully requests claim 22 in this application should be in condition for allowance. Other claims pertain to the claim 22 should be allowable if finally claim 22 is found allowable. Withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.
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The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned if there are informalities that can be resolved in a phone conversation, or if the Examiner has any ideas or suggestions for further advancing the prosecution of this case.

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Sincerely yours,



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25 Note: Please leave a message in my voice mail if you need to talk to me. (The time in D.C. is 12 hours behind the Taiwan time, i.e. 9 AM in D.C. = 9 PM in Taiwan.)